

Hidden Treasures at Ancestry.com

Presented by Juliana Smith and Loretto (Lou) Szucs - 19 January 2013

This presentation for CAGNI is compliments of Ancestry.com

Lszucs@ancestry.com and jsmith@ancestry.com

OVERVIEW

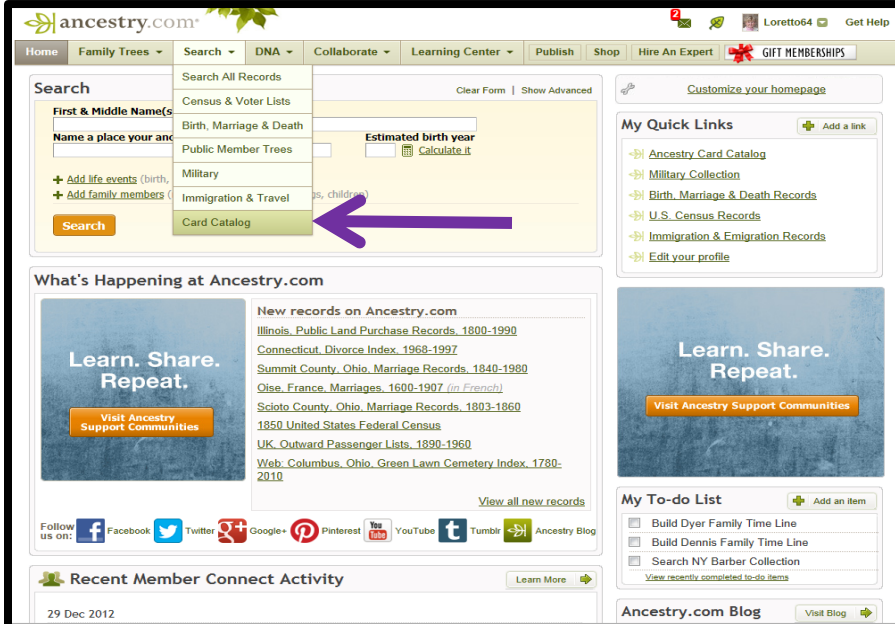
Beyond identifying individuals and proving relationships, most family historians want to have a much deeper understanding of the lives of their ancestors. The good news is that most of those who have gone before us have left a fascinating trail for us to follow. Beyond the traditional records that lead to needed names, dates, places, and relationships, traces of people's lives and personalities can be found in lesser-used and sometimes hidden sources. Use your imagination and hopefully, some of the ideas for finding these "hidden sources" on Ancestry.com will open up new doors for you!

Find the "Hiddens" by Locality

- Click the "Search" tab on Ancestry's front page
- Click "Search All Records"
- Scroll down the page
- Click on map or link for state for locality of interest

Importance of the Card Catalog

- Powerful tool that helps you easily find specific databases on Ancestry.com
- Search by keyword or by title – if you are sure about the exact title
- Filter down by:
 - Location
 - Record type
 - Date range
 - Language



The screenshot shows the Ancestry.com search page. The search bar is at the top left, with a dropdown menu open. The dropdown menu lists various search options: Search All Records, Census & Voter Lists, Birth, Marriage & Death, Public Member Trees, Military, Immigration & Travel, and Card Catalog. A purple arrow points to the 'Card Catalog' option. The search bar also includes fields for 'First & Middle Name(s)', 'Name a place your ancestor lived', and 'Estimated birth year'. Below the search bar, there are sections for 'What's Happening at Ancestry.com' and 'My Quick Links'. The 'What's Happening' section lists new records on Ancestry.com, including Illinois Public Land Purchase Records, Connecticut Divorce Index, Summit County Ohio Marriage Records, Olise France Marriages, Scioto County Ohio Marriage Records, 1850 United States Federal Census, UK Outward Passenger Lists, and Web Columbus Ohio Green Lawn Cemetery Index. The 'My Quick Links' section includes links to Ancestry Card Catalog, Military Collection, Birth, Marriage & Death Records, U.S. Census Records, and Immigration & Emigration Records. The 'My To-do List' section includes tasks like 'Build Dyer Family Time Line', 'Build Dennis Family Time Line', and 'Search NY Barber Collection'. The page footer shows the date '29 Dec 2012' and the 'Ancestry.com Blog' link.

ancestry.com

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Ancestry Card Catalog

Search Titles

Title

Keyword(s)

Search
or [Clear All](#)

Filter Titles

[Reset all filters and start over](#)

FILTER BY COLLECTION

- Census & Voter Lists 547
- Birth, Marriage & Death 1000+
- Military 1000+
- Immigration & Travel 394
- Newspapers & Publications 1000+
- Pictures 35
- Stories, Memories & Histories 1000+
- Maps, Atlases & Gazetteers 183
- Schools, Directories & Church Histories 1000+
- Tax, Criminal, Land & Wills 1000+
- Reference, Dictionaries & Almanacs 1000+
- Family Trees 11

Matches 1-25 of 31,325

Sort By Popularity

Title	Collection	Records	Activity
Public Member Trees	Family Trees	2,147,483,647	
1940 United States Federal Census	Census & Voter Lists	134,473,509	UPDATED
1930 United States Federal Census	Census & Voter Lists	124,962,440	
1900 United States Federal Census	Census & Voter Lists	77,277,539	
1920 United States Federal Census	Census & Voter Lists	107,634,003	
1910 United States Federal Census	Census & Voter Lists	93,627,808	UPDATED
1880 United States Federal Census	Census & Voter Lists	50,480,997	
U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989 (Beta)	Schools, Directories & Church Histories	1,051,103,051	
1870 United States Federal Census	Census & Voter Lists	40,405,477	
Social Security Death Index	Birth, Marriage & Death	92,568,701	
1911 England Census	Census & Voter Lists	33,847,691	
1860 United States Federal Census	Census & Voter Lists	27,483,658	
1850 United States Federal Census	Census & Voter Lists	20,053,649	UPDATED
England & Wales, FreeBMD Marriage Index, 1837-1915	Birth, Marriage & Death	32,698,349	
England & Wales, Marriage Index, 1916-2005	Birth, Marriage & Death	63,961,218	
England & Wales, Birth Index, 1916-2005	Birth, Marriage & Death	71,312,033	
England & Wales, FreeBMD Birth Index, 1837-1915	Birth, Marriage & Death	62,793,107	
1901 England Census	Census & Voter Lists	30,580,800	

Census Records and Tax Lists – Including Non-population schedules

(Search tab; census and tax under pull-down menu; U.S. Federal Census on right; scroll down on U.S. Census page to see all the possibilities)

- Agricultural census schedules 1840-1880
- 1880 Schedules of Defective, Dependent and Delinquent Classes
- Industry/Manufacturers Schedules, 1850-1880
- Mortality Schedules, 1850-1885 (Free Index)
- 1890 Veterans Schedules
- U.S. IRS Tax Assessment Lists, 1862-1918

African American Collections

- <http://landing.ancestry.com/africanamericanhistory/> (Scroll down, right corner of Search tab)

Border Crossings

- From Canada and Mexico into the U.S.

Directories

(City and other directories -- use keyword search within directory category)

- Over a billion names added to city directory collection as of April 2012
- Go to City Directories Search Page – Enter city in search box. Right side of page, “Browse this collection” to find available directories. Boston directories from 1823 to 1981 (with some gaps)
- *Prairie Farmer’s Reliable Directory: Will County and Southern Cook County, Illinois, 1918*
- Directory of Deceased American Physicians, 1804-1929
Example used: Mary Louise Ambrook; born 12 May, 1850, Boston, MA; died 4 August 1914, Boulder, CO; type of practice, allopath; license, MI 1891; Practice dates, 1911 to 1914, Boulder, CO; University of Michigan Medical School; died of heart disease.

Emigrant Savings Bank of New York Records

- Mostly Irish immigrants but some other nationalities. Mostly New York City but other residences listed as well. (<http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=8760> – under Immigration Records, New York)

Histories

- History of the Swedes of Illinois

Italian

- Sons of Italy – Illinois Lodge Records

Maps, Atlases and Gazetteers

- Example: Town of Reading, Middlesex County, 1906
- Description: This database contains approximately 1,200 U.S. county land ownership atlases from the Library of Congress’ Geography and Maps division, covering the approximate years 1864-1918. Some photos of county officers, land owners, and buildings or homes are also included.

Massachusetts Name Changes, 1780-1892

- This collection of court records originally published in 1893 contains changes of names approved by the courts of Massachusetts between 1780 and 1892. Containing nearly 40,000 records, each entry includes the original name and the new name. In addition, most entries contain information on family relatives and the person's residence at the time of court action. For the researcher whose ancestor once lived in Massachusetts and possibly changed their name, this is a valuable database.

Military

- Civil War Draft Registers
- Civil War Prisoner of War Records
- U.S. Veterans Gravesites, 1795-2006
- U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1940
- U.S. National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938 -
- U.S. Returns from Military Posts, 1806-1916
- Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution, 17 Vols.
- Vietnam Awards and Decorations of Honor

Naturalization Records

- Illinois, New York, New England and other major naturalization indexes free through the Ancestry World Archives Project.

News and Newspapers

- Ancestry.com has newspapers for various U.S. cities. Search by locality. The newspapers can be browsed or searched using a computer-generated index. The accuracy of the index varies according to the quality of the original images. The images for this newspaper can be browsed sequentially, or via links to specific images, which may be obtained through the search results.
- To keep up with Ancestry news, watch the Blog on the home page. Updated almost daily.

Passenger Lists

- Ancestry has all available ports for all available years
- Look at the entire list for the ship and find hidden stories

Passport Applications, 1795-1925

- Passport applications from 1795–1925, including emergency passport applications (passports issued abroad) for the years 1877–1925; special passport applications (military, diplomats, civilian federal employees, and dependents), 1914–1925; applications for extension and amendment of passports, 1918–1925; applications for certificates of identity in Germany, 1920–1921; and applications for declarants 1907–1911 and 1914–1920. It also contains passport application registers for 1810–1817, 1830–1831, and 1834–1906. Passports issued March 4–5, 1919 (numbers 67500–67749) are missing from the NARA collection and not in this database.

Patent and Trademark Records

- <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1314>

Periodical Source Index

- PERSI is the largest and most widely-used subject index covering genealogy and local history periodicals written in English and French (Canada). The collection dates from approximately 1800. There are currently over 1.7 million searchable records and nearly 6,000 different periodicals, which library staffers at the Allen County Public Library have been compiling for over a decade. PERSI is widely recognized as essential for high-quality genealogy research.

Postmaster's Appointments

- Work in progress in Ancestry World Archives Project

Religious Records

- Baptist Theological Seminary, Chicago, 1873
- St Dennis Catholic Church Records, Lockport, IL (other denominations via Lockport <http://www.lockporthistory.org/>)
- Jewish Collections
 - http://www.ancestry.com/jewishgen-all?o_iid=48016&o_lid=48016
 - The Boston Jewish Advocate Index to Obituary Notices, 1905-2007

Seamen's Protection Certificates

- Through Ancestry World Archives Project - http://www.ancestry.com/wiki/index.php?title=World_Archives_Project:_Seamen%27s_Protection_Certificates

State Censuses

- Nebraska and New Mexico – through Ancestry World Archives Project

Trees at Ancestry.com

- Search trees at Ancestry for photographs and documents posted by other potential family members

Veterans Schedules of the Census, 1890

- <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=8667>

Vital Records (Some sources are hidden because we don't realize they have been added)

<u>Cook County, Illinois Death Index, 1908-1988</u>	2,746,806
<u>Cook County, Illinois, Birth Certificates Index, 1871-1922</u>	2,353,078
<u>Cook County, Illinois Marriage Index, 1930-1960</u>	2,035,378
<u>Cook County, Illinois, Marriages Index, 1871-1920</u>	1,730,670
<u>Cook County, Illinois, Deaths Index, 1878-1922</u>	1,423,430

Voter Registration Records

- Chicago Voter Registrations, 1888, 1890, 1892

World Archives Project

(Collaborate tab on front page of Ancestry.com; click arrow on list of completed projects)

- <http://community.ancestry.com/wap/dashboard.aspx>

World War II Records

- World War II Army Muster Rolls - <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1089>

Yearbooks

This is an indexed collection of middle school, junior high, high school, and college yearbooks from across the United States. Yearbooks are one of those home sources, usually found in an attic or basement, which many people don't think of as a family history source. While yearbooks may not provide information about the vital events that are usually associated with genealogical research, they do provide other information about individuals' lives. This information helps place people in historical context as well as provides detail that helps turn individuals, sometimes only known by names and dates, into actual people.

What's Happening at Ancestry.com

New records on Ancestry.com - 7 January 2013

- [Illinois, Public Land Purchase Records, 1800-1990](#)
- [Connecticut, Divorce Index, 1968-1997](#)
- [Summit County, Ohio, Marriage Records, 1840-1980](#)
- [Oise, France, Marriages, 1600-1907 \(in French\)](#)
- [Scioto County, Ohio, Marriage Records, 1803-1860](#)
- [1850 United States Federal Census](#)
- [UK, Outward Passenger Lists, 1890-196](#)

